Filed this 6th day of October, 2000

Joyce Hazeltine

SECRETARY OF STATE

STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA

RECEIVED

OCT 06 2000

S.D. SEC. OF STATE

Statement of Legal Newspaper Ownership and Circulation

Return to: Secretary of State, 500 E. Capitol, Pierre, SD 57501-5077

1. TITLE OF NEWSPAPER The Northwest Blade		2. DATE OF FILING Oct. 5, 2000
3. FREQUENCY OF ISSUE weekly	3A. NO. OF ISSUES PUBLISHED ANNUALLY 52	3B. ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION PRICE $21 and $25

4. COMPLETE MAILING ADDRESS OF KNOWN OFFICE OF PUBLICATION *(Street, City, County, State and ZIP+4 Code) (Not printers)*
Box 797, Eureka, SD 57437-0797

5. COMPLETE MAILING ADDRESS OF THE HEADQUARTERS OR GENERAL BUSINESS OFFICES OF THE PUBLISHER *(Not printer)*
Box 797, Eureka, SD 57437-0797

6. FULL NAME OF PUBLISHER:
Arlo C. Mehlhaff

7. OWNER *(If owned by a corporation, its name and address must be stated and list on the back of this form the names and addresses of stockholders owning or holding 1 percent or more of total amount of stock. If not owned by a corporation, the names and addresses of the individual owners must be given. If owned by a partnership or other unincorporated firm, its name and address, as well as that of each individual must be given.*

FULL NAME	COMPLETE MAILING ADDRESS
The Northwest Blade, Inc.,	Box 797, Eureka, SD 57437-0797

8. KNOWN BONDHOLDERS, MORTGAGEES, AND OTHER SECURITY HOLDERS OWNING OR HOLDING 1 PERCENT OR MORE OF TOTAL AMOUNT OF BONDS. MORTGAGES OR OTHER SECURITIES *(If there are none, so state. If more space is needed, list on back of this form)*
Great Plains Bank, 702 7th St., Eureka, SD 57437

9. EXTENT AND NATURE OF CIRCULATION *(See instructions on reverse side)*	AVERAGE NO. COPIES EACH ISSUE D PRECEDING 12 MONTHS	ACTUAL NO. COPIES ISSUE NEAREST TO FILING DATE
A. TOTAL NO. COPIES *(Net Press Run)*	1650	1650
B. PAID AND/OR REQUESTED CIRCULATION 1. Sales through dealers and carriers, street vendors and counter sales	125	125
2. Mail Subscription *(Paid and or requested)*	1452	1452
C. TOTAL PAID AND/OR REQUESTED CIRCULATION *(Sum of 10B1 and 10B2)*	1479	1479
D. FREE DISTRIBUTION BY MAIL, CARRIER OR OTHER MEANS	28	28
SAMPLES, COMPLIMENTARY, AND OTHER FREE COPIES	20	20
E. TOTAL DISTRIBUTION *(Sum of C and D)*	1509	1509
F. COPIES NOT DISTRIBUTED 1. Office use, left over, unaccounted, spoiled after printing	141	141
2. Return from News Agents	0	0
G. TOTAL *(Sum of E, F1 and 2 -- should equal net press run shown in A)*	1650	1650

I swear that the statements made by me above are correct and complete.

SIGNATURE AND TITLE OF PUBLISHER, BUSINESS MANAGER OR OWNER
Arlo C. Mehlhaff

State of South Dakota)
: SS
County of)

(Seal)

Sworn to before me this 5th day of Oct., 19 2000

Barry Lapp
Notary Public

My commission expires 6/5/2004

Form: SOS REC 051 01/92